Drop in growth rate of drug production

1988. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a drop in growth rate of drug manufacture in the country leading to black marketing and indicating major crisis in the supply of drugs in future;

(b) whether the target of value of out put of bulk drugs and formulations at the end of Sixth Plan is being adhered to;

(c) whether production of several important drugs like Penicillin, Chloromycetin and immunological agents has fallen leading to man-made crisis; and

(d) whether it is a fact that to mask failure of production, prices have been escalated in order to reduce off take, affecting consumption by weaker sections?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (c) Production of bulk drugs and formulations had increased from Rs. 226 crores and Rs. 1150 crores in 1979-80 to Rs. 325 crores and Rs. 1600 crores in 1982-83 respectively. Indigenous production of various drugs has been commensurate with the market demand. My Ministry monitors the availability of essential and life saving drugs. Shortage of drugs wherever noticed occasionally are mainly either of a localised nature or of brand drugs for which other equivalents are available.

(b) During mid-term appraisal, Planning Commission have revised 1984-85 target of production of bulk drugs as Rs. 500 crores and that of formulations as Rs. 1900 crores.

(d) No, Sir. Prices of essential drugs are statutorily controlled by Drugs (Price and Control) Order 1979.

Proposal for Bringing the subject of Power in the Union List

1989. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently some Members of Parliament proposed for bringing the subject of power on the Union list;

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter; and

(c) what is the response of various State Governments to the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Members of the consultative Committee of Parliament for this Ministry had, in the last meeting of the Committee held on 4.7.84, expressed a unanimous view that the 'Electricity' should be transferred to the Union List. This was in connection with the consideration of the recommendations of Rajadhyaksha Committee on Power. In this context, the subject was raised at the recent Conference of Power Ministers of State held on 18.7.1984, when practically all the States were against the proposal.

Gas Pipeline from South Bassein to Northern India

1990. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to tap gas pipeline going to North from South Bassein *via* Hajira near Surat;

(b) whether rich gas available through these tap-off points would be used to meet the LPG demand in the backward Marathawada region of the Maharashtra State;

(c) whether the proposed gas pipeline alignment would be able to cover Aurangabad; and